

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02330 212010Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AID-05 DLOS-09 IO-13  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /102 W  
-----074768 220312Z /70

R 211921Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9970

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 2330

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BL, CI

SUBJ: PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF THE BREAK WITH CHILE

REF: (A) LA PAZ 2262, (B) SANTIAGO 1933

1. DURING A CONVERSATION ON MARCH 20, FOREIGN MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR JORGE SORUCO TOLD EMBOFF THAT BOLIVIA DECIDED TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CHILE ONLY AFTER IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THE PINOCHET GOVERNMENT WAS UNWILLING TO TAKE STEPS TO GET THE CORRIDOR TALKS MOVING AGAIN. (FULL TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER ADRIAZOLA'S DECLARATION POUCHED). REFERRING TO SPECIAL EMISSARY WILLY VARGAS' RECENT TALKS WITH FONMIN CARVAJAL, SORUCO SAID THAT CHILE HAD REFUSED TO WITHDRAW ITS TERRITORIAL EXCHANGE REQUIREMENT AND TO RENEW EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ON THE PROJECTED CORRIDOR WITH PERU.

2. SORUCO CONFIRMED THAT CONSULAR AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND CHILE WOULD CONTINUE AS BEFORE, BUT THAT THE "FREE TRANSIT" AGREEMENT OF FEBRUARY 1975--WHICH FACILITATED MIGRATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES -- WOULD BE ABROGATED. WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, SORUCO COMMENTED THAT THE PASSAGE OF BOLIVIAN GOODS THROUGH ARICA  
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WHICH IS PROVIDED FOR BY TREATY, WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED. HE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT DISCRETIONARY TRADE--HE MENTIONED AS AN EXAMPLE THE IMPORTATION OF CEMENT FROM CHILE--WOULD BE REDUCED INsofar AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THAT DURING THE PAST YEAR BOLIVIA HAD SUSTAINED A REGISTERED TRADE DEFICIT VIS-A-VIS CHILE OF ABOUT \$15 MILLION, WITH CONTRABAND ACCOUNTING FOR PERHAPS AN ADDITIONAL \$15 MILLION. HE FELT THESE

FIGURES WOULD BE REDUCED CONSIDERABLY, AND THAT CHILE WOULD FEEL THE IMPACT. AS REGARDS THE ABROGATION OF THE IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE WILL BE NO RETROACTIVITY, AND THAT CHILEANS NOW RESIDING IN BOLIVIA WILL NOT BE PREJUDICED.

3. COMMENT: AS ANTICIPATED IN LA PAZ 2262, THE BREAK WITH CHILE HAS STRUCK RESPONSIVE CHORDS THROUGHOUT BOLIVIA. WHILE BOLIVIAN OFFICIALS INSIST THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION WAS TAKEN PURELY IN RESPONSE TO CHILEAN INTRANSIGENCE, THEY DO NOT DENY THAT IT HAS REAPED INTERNAL POLITICAL BENEFITS. IT HAS ALSO SUCCEEDED--AT LEAST TEMPORARILY--IN PUSHING THE TIN ISSUE OFF THE FRONG PAGES.  
BOEKER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Subject:** PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF THE BREAK WITH CHILE  
**TAGS:** PINT, PDIP, PEPR, BL, CI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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